



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/725,686

12/02/2003

Joseph M. Jacobson

056754/0120889

3403

26242 7590 02/13/2008

NORMA E HENDERSON  
HENDERSON PATENT LAW  
13 JEFFERSON DR  
LONDONDERRY, NH 03053

EXAMINER

ZIMMERMAN, JOSHUA D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2854

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

02/13/2008

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/725,686	<b>Applicant(s)</b> JACOBSON ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> JOSHUA D. ZIMMERMAN	<b>Art Unit</b> 2854	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 November 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 4, 10 and 16-22 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-9 and 11-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/2/03</u> .   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Election/Restrictions*

1. Applicants' election without traverse of Group II in the reply filed on 11/26/07 is acknowledged.

However, after further consideration, Group I is found to be searchable with Group II and is also not deemed to be distinct from Group II. Claims 1-3 are therefore REJOINED. Claim 4 is deemed to be part of Species B, which is non-elected by Applicants.

2. Claims 3 (corresponding to Species B) and 16-22 (corresponding to group III) are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected Group and/or Species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 11/26/07.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Park et al. (US 2003/0017424).

Art Unit: 2854

5. Regarding claim 1, Park et al. teach "a method for bringing first and second surfaces into contact (figure 4), comprising the steps of:

bowing the first surface in a controlled manner (paragraph 27);

moving the bowed first surface toward the second surface at a predetermined rate until the first surface contacts the second surface at a single point of contact (paragraph 27. Examiner notes that in order to bring the two surfaces into contact, a rate must be predetermined, and therefore is inherent); and

continuing to move the bowed first surface toward the second surface until the single point of contact expands to a circle of desired radius (paragraph 27)."

6. Regarding claim 2, Park et al. teach "further comprising the step of aligning the first surface and the second surface before bringing them into contact (paragraph 25)."

7. Regarding claim 3, Park et al. further teach "wherein the step of bowing is accomplished by pressurization of the first surface (paragraph 28)."

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 5-9 and 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Park et al. in view of Johnson (US 2003/0095170).

10. Regarding claim 5, Park et al. teach "a method for contact printing, comprising the steps of:

applying a thin film of material to a substrate (paragraph 23);  
creating a pattern in the thin film of material by bringing a stamp into contact with the substrate (figure 4).”

Park et al. fail to teach that the substrate is an offset substrate and that the patterned film is transferred “to a final substrate by bringing the offset substrate into contact with the final substrate.”

Johnson teaches a method of transferring a pattern to a final substrate by using an intermediate transfer member (abstract) in order to decrease the amount of fluid transferred to the final substrate (abstract). Therefore, at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the method of Park et al. by including a transfer member in order to reduce the amount of fluid transferred to the final substrate.

11. Regarding claim 6, Park et al. as modified teach all that is claimed, including the addition of a release agent in order to facilitate removal of the mold (paragraph 24). However, Park et al. as modified fail to specifically mention the values of the contact angles of the surfaces in question. However, one having ordinary skill in the art would recognize that utilizing surfaces with different contact angles will facilitate pattern transfer and would have been motivated to modify Park et al. such that “the stamp has a contact angle lower than the contact angle of the offset substrate and the final substrate has a contact angle lower than the contact angle of the offset substrate” in order to facilitate the pattern transfer process.

12. Regarding claim 7, Johnson further teaches “the step of bringing the offset substrate into contact with a second final substrate to transfer any remaining material to the second final substrate (paragraph 32. The step of cleaning meets this limitation).”

13. Regarding claim 8, Park et al. further teach “wherein the step of transferring comprises:

bowing the first surface in a controlled manner (paragraph 27);

moving the bowed first surface toward the second surface at a predetermined rate until the first surface contacts the second surface at a single point of contact (paragraph 27. Examiner notes that in order to bring the two surfaces into contact, a rate must be predetermined, and therefore is inherent); and

continuing to move the bowed first surface toward the second surface until the single point of contact expands to a circle of desired radius (paragraph 27).”

14. Regarding claim 9, Park, et al. further teach “the step of transferring comprising pressurization of the first surface (paragraph 28).”

15. Regarding claim 11, Park et al. as modified teach all that is claimed, but fail to specifically teach “further comprising the step of reversing the patterned film by transferring the patterned film to a second offset substrate before transferring it to the final offset substrate by bringing the offset substrate into contact with the second offset substrate.” However, since Johnson teaches the use of an intermediate substrate in order to transfer a pattern whereby less material is ultimately transferred, one having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to include a further intermediate substrate in order to transfer even less material to the final substrate.

16. Regarding claim 12, Park et al. as modified further teach “further comprising the step of heating the material before or while applying it to the offset substrate (paragraph 29).”

17. Regarding claim 13, Park et al. as modified further teach “further comprising the step of heating the patterned film before or during the step of transferring (paragraph 29).”

18. Claims 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Park et al. in view of Johnson, as applied to claim 5 above, further in view of Jacobson et al. (US 6517995).

19. Regarding claim 14, Park et al. as modified teach all that is claimed, except “the step of modifying the patterned film before the step of transferring.” Jacobson et al. teach further modifying the patterned film in order to create a desired three-dimensional configuration (column 6, lines 43-47). Therefore, at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to further modify the method of Park et al. in accordance with Jacobson et al. in order to create a desired three-dimensional configuration.

20. Regarding claim 15, Jacobson et al. further teach “wherein the step of modifying includes adding material to the patterned film (column 6, lines 43-47).”

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JOSHUA D. ZIMMERMAN whose telephone number is

Art Unit: 2854

(571)272-2749. The examiner can normally be reached on M-R 8:30A - 6:00P,  
Alternate Fridays 8:30A-5:00P.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-2258. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Judy Nguyen/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2854

Joshua D Zimmerman  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2854

jdz